-1201

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

SECRET

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Ms. Woodward - ARA

DATE: June 28, 1954

FROM : Mr. Burrows - MID

SUBJECT:

765

My main observation as to your suggested plan of action in the event the Arbenz Government is overthrown (which, incidentally, is very well considered and presented) is that we should be prepared to arrive at the recognition stage even quicker than three days after it appears that the revolution has been succesful. The initial twenty-four hour wait is undoubtedly a wise and necessary precaution, but in our circular telegram to the other American governments (your paragraph 2) I would be inclined to say that we were planning to resume official diplomatic relations in approximately one day. If this seems too precipitate for us we should be prepared to encourage any other governments that may be so inclined, to grant almost immediate recognition. The governments which do not have official relations with the present regime, for example, would probably be inclined to waste no time.

The present development in Guatemala complicates matters also. The fact that Diaz has given his word of honor not to treat with Castillo Armas leaves a question in my mind as to how fast we should be prepared to treat with Diaz. The only reason Diaz has been able to take over the Presidency is the Castillo Armas revolution. I would think there would have to be some more changes before things become completely clarrified.

I have no specific ideas now as to other possible actions but some will undoubtedly occur to me as we go along. Certainly your excellent suggestions would be sufficient for any immediate action and should furnish dramatic evidence to the world of what a change in government in Guatemala means to that country.

cc: Ambassador Pawley
ARA:MID:CRBurrows:mt

SECRET

714.00-6/6-2854